Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAA-01 SES-02 SSC-01 /074 W

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O 061020Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9876

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL KABUL 7170

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PINT, PINS, PINR, AF

SUBJ: RECALL OF PARCHAMIST AMBASSADORS

REF: STATE 224923 (NOTAL)

1. ON SEPTEMBER 6, IN THE MIDST OF THE OFFICIAL FOUR-DAY ID HOLIDAY PERIOD, THE AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DELIVERED TO THE EMBASSY A NOTE, DATED SEPTEMBER 5, TERSELY ANNOUNCING THAT "THE TERM OF OFFICE OF MR. NOOR AHMAD NOOR AS AMBASSADOR OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN IN WASHINGTON HAS ENDED." THE NOTE FURTHER REQUESTED THAT THE EMBASSY "KINDLY INFORM THE CONCERNED AUTHORITIES ABOUT THIS NEWS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE." CONFIDENTIAL

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2. THE BRITISH EMBASSY HAS INFORMED US THAT IT HAS RECEIVED AN IDENTICAL NOTE, ANNOUNCING THE TERMINATION OF ABDUL WAKIL'S TENURE AT LONDON. A BRITISH DIPLOMAT HAD A CHANCE TO GLANCE BRIEFLY AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY MESSENGER'S RECEIPT BOOK. HE NOTED THAT NOTES WERE ALSO BEING DELIVERED TO THE FOLLOWING THREE EMBASSIES FROM COUNTRIES WHERE PARCHAMIST LEADERS HAVE BEEN EXILED

AS DIPLOMATS SINCE LATE JUNE AND EARLY JULY: IRAN (DR. MOHAMMAD NAJIB AT TEHRAN); PAKISTAN (MAHMOUD BARYALAI, THE BROTHER OF BABRAK KARMAL, AT ISLAMABAD); AND YUGOSLAVIA (DR. ANAHITA RATEBZAD AT BELGRADE). ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO LOOK FURTHER, WE PRESUME THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY (BABRAK KARMAL AT PRAGUE) WAS UNDOUBTEDLY ALSO INCLUDED. BY PHONE, THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR HAS ALSO CONFIRMED RECEIPT OF HIS SPECIAL NOTE.

- 3. EARLIER, ON SEPTEMBER 5, AN EMBASSY OFFICER WAS TOLD BY A RELATIVE OF BABRAK THAT: "ALL PARCHAMIST DIPLOMATS SERVING ABROAD HAVE BEEN OR SHORTLY WILL BE RECALLED. MOST, INCLUDING NOOR AHMAD NOOR, WILL NOT RETURN. HOWEVER, BABRAK KARMAL IS GOING TO COME TO FACE WHATEVER MUSIC IS IN STORE FOR HIM." (THE SOURCE WAS SO CONVINCED ABOUT HIS INFORMATION THAT HE HAD ALREADY SENT HIS SON OUT OF AFGHANISTAN FOR HIS SAFETY.)
- 4. AFTER RECEIPT OF OUR NOTE TODAY, I ASKED FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN TO DISCUSS THE MEANING OF NOOR AHMED NOOR'S RECALL.
- 5. REQUEST: TO TMK EXTENT POSSIBLE, WOULD ADDRESSEE POSTS WITH PARCHAMIST AMBASSADORS PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED ABOUT THEIR PLANS OR WHEREABOUTS?
- 6. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT THE KHALQIST LEADERS AT KABUL HAVE DECIDED THAT THE EXILED PARCHAMIST LEADERS STILL REPRESENTED AN CONFIDENTIAL

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UNACCEPTABLE THREAT TO THEIR SECURITY -- PROBABLY BECAUSE THE LATTER WERE SEEN AS PLOTTING WITH LOCAL PARCHAMISTS AND OTHER OPPOSITIONISTS HERE -- AND HAVE ELECTED TO DEPRIVE THEM OF AN OFFICIAL BASE FROM WHICH TO OPERATE. WE EXPECT FEW TO HEED THE ORDER TO RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN. DUBS

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